

ABSTRACT

An alignment detection system is disclosed for determining whether a modulated illumination field in an imaging system employing an illumination modulator is misaligned. The alignment detection system includes a modulator adjustment unit for providing a test pattern on the illumination modulator, a detector for receiving a modulated illumination field from the illumination modulator, a sampling unit for determining at least two sample values (A and C) for each of two areas of the modulated illumination field respectively, and an evaluation unit for determining whether the value $|A - C|$ is greater than a threshold value.